



THE MESSENGER

OF THE OAKLAND STAKE OF ZION

Vol. 5

OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA, DECEMBER, 1935

No. 12

NEW EDITORS

Heretofore the work of putting out the Messenger has fallen on President Macdonald. Although it has greatly added to his load he has done it cheerfully as well as efficiently. His work now takes him out of town so much that it becomes impossible for him to give the Messenger the attention it requires. The Stake Presidency has therefore deemed it advisable to place this work in new hands. In this connection Berkeley N. Erickson has been chosen as editor and Marjorie Evans assistant editor. They have assumed charge with this issue. Reed Chase will continue as business manager.

The Stake Presidency has unbounded confidence in these young people and those who may be selected to assist them. In behalf of the entire Stake we wish them success and joy in their labors. No more important assignment could be given anyone than the one they have so kindly consented to undertake.

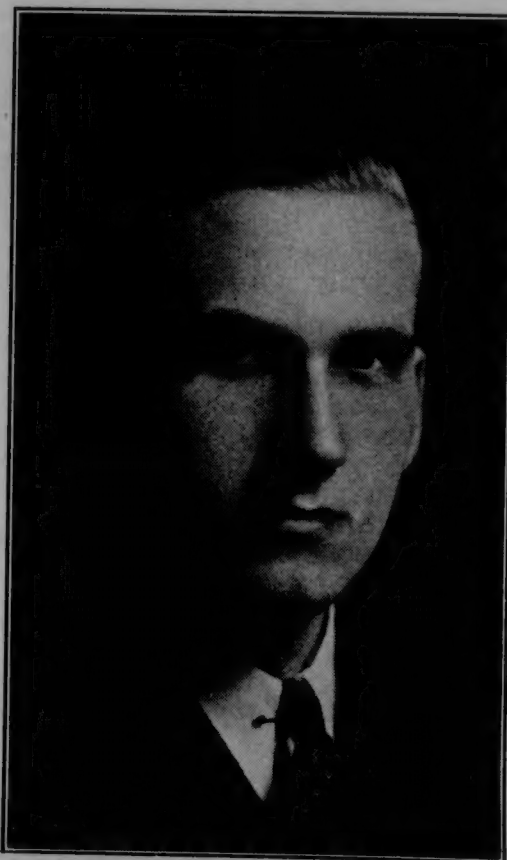
It is our desire that comments, suggestions or criticisms be sent directly to the editors from now on. They understand the general policy which the Stake Presidency would like followed. The rest is left entirely to them.

In order that the people generally may be advised of the matters we should like covered in this paper we mention such as occur to us at this time.

It is our desire:

1. That every person born in the Stake be announced promptly upon his or her arrival.
2. That every person moving in to the Stake be introduced and welcomed.
3. That no person shall move away without it being noted and a friendly godspeed wished them.
4. That there shall be mention of all persons who visit us.
5. That the passing away of every member of the Stake be noted and their good works summarized. That families of the departed be encouraged to submit promptly a cut with full biographical data.
6. That every change in Stake officers and bishoprics be noted, and the contributions of the outgoing officers while in office noted.
7. That all worthy achievement in the Stake, whether won by individuals or groups, in every department of our lives, spiritual, educational, professional, etc. be recognized and encouraged. This would include honors won in Scouting and the various organizations, scholarship, receiving of higher degrees, admission to the bar, the practice of medicine, positions of trust, distinction in writing, the arts, the sciences, etc.
8. That a corner of the paper be dedicated to local literary effort, both in the way of poetry and prose. Nice little write-ups on the history of our people in California would be welcomed.
9. That there be a foreign missionary department, noting the goings, works and experiences while away, and comings back of our missionaries.
10. That all baptisms, conversions and advancements in the priesthood be noted.
11. That all important announcements of the month be noted.
12. That all Stake conferences and conventions be fully reported.
13. That there be at least one new picture in the Messenger each month.
14. That the important news from the wards that does not come within the above classifications be noted under the several wards.
15. That the organizations of the Stake have opportunity to make their more important announcements.
16. That the paper be departmentalized so that all related matters appear in assembled form.
17. That every precaution be taken to insure accuracy, and where errors creep in that there be a corner for corrections in the succeeding issues.
18. That there never appear anything in the paper that could possibly offend any one. Of course it may be that this cannot be entirely avoided at times, as for instance, notices of excommunications, etc.

J. EDWARD JOHNSON



BERKELEY N. ERICKSEN

New Editor



MARJORIE EVANS

New Associate Editor

CHRISTMAS

"Christmas," said the little old lady in Sarah Lockwood's Round Robin's Barn, "is a very hard thing to write about. It was written about once, and nobody has ever been able to write anything worth while about it since." So here is the first writing of the birth of He who brought love into the world.

"And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field keeping watch over their flock by night.

And lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid.

And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which shall be to all people.

For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

And this shall be a sign unto you: Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying,

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven the shepherds said one to another, 'Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing, which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us.'

And they came with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger.

And when they had seen it they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child.

And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds.

But Mary kept all these things and pondered them in her heart.

And the shepherds returned glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them."

Luke 2:8-21

ACHIEVEMENT

Heber James Brown, active worker in the Oakland ward and missionary leader, after four years of diligent study, recently passed the California State Bar examination. He has set a fine example to folks of the stake in the use of his time. While working in a chain store, he attended night school and with home study, passed the requirements of the Oakland Law College. He is now a full-fledged lawyer, and employed by the HOLC. Congratulations, Heber!

THE MESSENGER

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints

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"Behold, I will send my messenger, and he will prepare the way before me; and the Lord whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to his temple."—Mal. 3:1

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THE OBLIGATIONS OF PARENTS

Some years ago the counsel and advice contained herein were published by the First Presidency of the Church, consisting at that time of Presidents Joseph F. Smith, Anthon H. Lund, and Charles W. Penrose. Later they were republished by Presidents Heber J. Grant, Anthony W. Ivins, and Chas. W. Nibley. As these suggestions apply with equal force today they are again published with the recommendation that Ward Teachers throughout the Church urge parents to comply with the commandments: "We counsel with the Latter-day Saints to observe more closely the commandment of the Lord given in the 68th section of the Doctrine and Covenants,

"And again, inasmuch as parents have children in Zion, or in any of her Stakes which are organized, that teach them not to understand the doctrine of repentance, faith in Christ the Son of the living God, and of baptism and the gift of the Holy Ghost by the laying on of hands when eight years old, the sin be upon the heads of the parents:

"For this shall be a law unto the inhabitants of Zion, or in any of her Stakes which are organized;

"And their children shall be baptized for the remission of their sins when eight years old, and receive the laying on of hands;

"And they shall also teach their children to pray and to walk uprightly before the Lord."

"The children of Zion should also observe more fully the commandment of the Lord given to ancient Israel, and reiterated to the Latter-day Saints: 'Honor thy father and mother; that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee.'

"These revelations apply with great force to the Latter-day Saints, and it is required of fathers and mothers in this Church that these commandments shall be taught and applied in their homes.

"If the Saints obey this counsel, we promise that great blessings will result. Love at home and obedience to parents will increase. Faith will be developed in the hearts of the youth of Israel, and they will gain power to combat the evil influences and temptations which beset them."

Parents should take occasion every evening as far as practicable to inquire into their children's activities of the day. They should encourage them in good habits, tell them of statements made or experiences that are faith-promoting and good-habit forming. They should encourage them in proper associations. They should know with whom their children mingle, and what character and training their associates have. They should train their children to avoid temptation and to avoid being away during late hours. They should help them to develop moral courage and will power to choose the right course.

Ward teachers' topic for January

IMPRESSIONS OF JOSEPH SMITH

(Editor's note: December 23 will mark the 130th anniversary of the birth of the Prophet at Sharon, Windsor County, Vermont.)

James Leech, at one time a resident of Salt Lake City, left the following "impression" of Joseph Smith:

"In the year of 1841, my sister, her husband and myself came from England. After arriving in Nauvoo we were five or six weeks looking for employment, but failed to get any. One morning I said to my brother-in-law, 'Let us go and see the prophet. I feel that he will give us something to do.' He considered a short time then consented to go. On arriving at his house we inquired for the prophet. We were told he was over the road. So we went over, and found him in a little store selling a lady some goods. This was the first time I had an opportunity to be near him and get a good look at him. I felt there was a superior spirit in him. He was different to anyone I had ever met before; and I said in my heart, he truly is a prophet of the Most High God.

"As I was not at that time a member of the Church I wanted my brother-in-law to ask him for work, but he did not do so, so I had to. I said, 'Mr. Smith, if you please, have you any work you could give both of us so we can get some provisions?' He viewed us with a cheerful countenance, and with such a feeling of kindness said, 'Well, boys, what can you do?'

"We told him what our employment was before we left our native land.

"Said he 'Can you make a ditch?'

"I replied that we would do the best we could do at it.

"That's right boys,' and picking up a tape line, he said, 'Come along with me.'

"He took us a few rods from the store, gave me the ring to hold and stretched all the tape from the reel and marked a line for us to work by.

"Now, boys,' said he, 'Can you make a ditch three feet wide and two and a half feet deep along this line?'

"We said we would do our best, and he left us. We went to work and when it was finished I went and told him it was done.

"He came and looked at it and said, 'Boys, if I had done it myself it could not have been done any better. Now come with me.'

"He led the way back to his store, and told us to pick out the best ham or piece of pork for ourselves. Being rather bashful, I said we would rather he would give it to us. So he picked two of the largest and best pieces of meat and a sack of flour for each of us, and asked us if that would do. We told him we would be willing to do more for it, but he said, 'If you are satisfied, boys, I am.'"

C. V. Hansen

A bad man is wretched amidst every earthly advantage; a good man—troubled on every side, yet not distressed; perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; cast down, but not destroyed.

—Plato

BASKETBALL

The Stake M.-Men basketball tournament began December 5. From all indications the teams this year will be more evenly matched, and competition and rivalry will be at a higher pitch than ever before. Adult season tickets can be secured from your M.-Men leaders. Season tickets cost only \$1.50, and represent a saving of one-third of the regular price. Children, admission, 10c.

Here's the season schedule. All games held at Emeryville High School at 8:00 p. m.:

December 19—Elmhurst vs. Dimond
Oakland vs. Berkeley
January 2—Elmhurst vs. Oakland
Berkeley vs. Dimond
January 9—Oakland vs. Dimond
Elmhurst vs. Berkeley
January 16—Oakland vs. Berkeley
Elmhurst vs. Dimond
January 23—Oakland vs. Elmhurst
Berkeley vs. Dimond
January 30—Dimond vs. Oakland
Elmhurst vs. Berkeley
February 6—Oakland vs. Berkeley
Elmhurst vs. Dimond
"I'll see you at the Basket Ball games."

SCOUTS

The regular monthly meeting of the L. D. S. Scouters Round Table was held on Sunday, November 24, 1935. As "Bing" Beesley was busy at the Oakland Scout Camp on council business the meeting was conducted by Marshall Stoddard, of Dimond. Representatives of Troops 72 (Dimond), 46 (Oakland), 44 (Elmhurst), 16 (Alameda), and 8 (Berkeley) were present. Bead neckerchief slides were made by most of those present. New officers chosen were Lynn Knight for Secretary-Treasurer, and Robert Johnson for Historian.

Troop 72 reorganized its troop committee to take care of the Explorer Program for the older scouts. Marshall Stoddard was released as Scoutmaster and Eugene Jacobs was appointed as his successor.

Troop 46 reported good work by its scouts in cutting wood for widows and in doing many other good turns.

Troop 44 held a court of Honor Sunday, December 1.

Troop 16 of Alameda is being reorganized and a good report is expected from them at the next round table.

Troop 8 is preparing for a Court of Honor before Christmas and also has plans for an overnight hike on December sixth and seventh.

All scouters and committeemen are asked to attend as many ideas are exchanged.

CHURCH BOOKS

Plan now for different and better Christmas presents. Why not give Church books this year? The old favorites by Talmage, Roberts, Whitney, etc. Do you lack any of these?

Here's a few newer ones:

Joseph Smith, an American Prophet
Modern Miracles
The Way to Perfection
Mormonism and Free Masonry
In Search of Truth
The Present Time and Prophecy
The Breadth of Mormonism
The March of the Mormon Battalion
Our Bible in Stone
The Time of the End

Save time and postage on any Church book at the Stake Book-Case. See Ruth Wilson or John Searle at Oakland Chapel, or phone I. B. Ball, ASHberry 8131

BIRTHS

DAUGHTER, born to Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Horman of Alameda, October 24.
SON, Allan George, born to Mr. and Mrs. George Ensminger of Richmond, November 23.

BAPTISM

SON, Aaron Bright, son of Mrs. Mary Bright was baptized November 30.

ORDINATIONS

HIGH PRIEST: Albert E. Fitzpatrick of Dimond.
ELDER: Warren Claire Morgan and Elihu Arden Fredricksen of Dimond.
DEACONS:
ELDER: Charles Taylor Cox of Dimond.
DEACONS: Warren Claire Morgan, Elihu Arden Fredricksen, and Clifford Glen Cox of Dimond.

MARRIAGES

MITCHELL-OLSON: Gladys Mitchell and Anton Olson are to be married in the Dimond Chapel, 7:30 p. m. on December 20.

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M. I. A.

The following events are scheduled on the Stake activity program:

Dec. 23—Elmhurst Christmas Party
Dec. 27—Stake Beehive matinee dance from three until six p. m.

Jan. 4—M-Men-Gleaner Basket Ball Party. Berkeley Chapel.

Jan. 9—Missionary farewell for Miss June Weindorff. Dimond Chapel.

Jan. 14—Stake Adult Party. Berkeley Chapel.

Jan. 17—Three one-act plays. Dimond.
Jan. 24—Stake Drama Night. Oakland.

The Music Festival under the direction of Esther Jensen was held last Sunday with great success. Every seat was taken. Commendation goes to the Stake director of music, Mrs. Jensen, for her work on this beautiful production. She was assisted by Norma Bryan, Stake organist, and Elsie Johnson, who gave the reading.

There will be no Union Meeting Sunday, December 22.

The Stake Presidency of the M. I. A. and the board members extend greetings to all the Mutual workers.

Trieste Hall,
Glen Harmon,
Amy Anderson,
La Rue Colman,
Von Elsworth,
Thomas Pyme.

PRIMARY

The first Christmas party of the season was held November 23 when the Stake Primary Board entertained the Ward officers. A special guest of honor was Minnie Alice Hicken, former Stake superintendent. Superintendent Inez McFarlane of Elmhurst paid her a beautiful tribute. A simple dramatization of the Nativity was given. Games were played, plum puddings served, and a happy time was enjoyed.

Those who attended the ward conferences will testify to the splendid results of the work of our Ward officers. Our children have the sweetest voices and the loveliest songs in the church. Keep them singing!

We are happy to introduce our charming new secretary, Donna B. Pearce. Officers please note her address and send in reports promptly: 1709 27th Avenue, Oakland. Her promptness depends upon your reports.

To all Ward officers and teachers we extend a greeting. May you have joy in your work and the satisfaction that comes from doing a worthwhile task to the best of your ability. Merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

Jean G. Lauper
Ida Nielson
Donna Pearce

RELIEF SOCIETY

The Annual Convention, November 17 was one of joy and profit to all members. Two sessions were held under the direction of Kate Montgomery Barker and Lalene H. Hart of the General Board.

We are happy to report that lovely baskets were sent out from every ward expressing our thanks to our Heavenly Father for another bounteous year, and to gladden the hearts of the sick and unfortunate. Successful bazaars and Christmas parties have been held in several wards this month.

Gladys Harrison, who is attending the University of California, is in charge of the library work this year.

A delightful luncheon was given at the home of Adrian Gee for Anna Ellsworth and Vera P. Young, who have recently been released from the Presidency.

The Relief Society Stake Board extends the season's greetings to all members of the Oakland Stake.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

It has been almost one year since the Stake Presidency placed the responsibility of supervising the Sunday Schools of the Stake upon the shoulders of the presidents of the Melchizedek priesthood quorums.

We have been greatly impressed by the splendid leadership we have found in the Ward Sunday Schools. The faithfulness, loyalty, and courage of these good brothers and sisters, have been a source of inspiration and joy to us. Sunday after Sunday they are humbly striving to obey the request of our Saviour, "Feed my sheep." Not content with merely feeding those who come to be fed, most of the superintendencies have an active enlistment committee, whose purpose is to "Find my Sheep." Seven of our eleven Sunday Schools had 100 per cent or better, in the annual dime fund collection. Each Ward now has every member of that ward on one of the Sunday School rolls. Each ward is striving to have everyone in his place at three minutes to ten, thus promoting better order and spirituality. The officers and teachers are meeting together often in an endeavor to perfect the Sunday School over which they preside. We have started teachers' training work and hope to broaden the scope of this work during the coming year.

We take this opportunity to extend to our co-laborers the season's greetings and pray the Lord to continue his blessing upon them.

Clyde Summerhays
John Stirrat
Alvin Sorensen

C. W. NALDER

with

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• • WARD NEWS • •

ALAMEDA

A new troop of Boy Scouts, to be known as Alameda troop No. 16, held their first meeting at the Garden Hall on November 21. Committeemen consist of Donald W. Hughes, chairman; and Henry F. Seavers, Hyrum S. Horman, J. Roderick Hunt, and Leo H. Crandall. Ernest E. Crosbie is scoutmaster. They had a good initial meeting and all are determined to make our troop as good as any in the Church or elsewhere.

Under the direction of the activity committee of the Melchizedek Priesthood, a good live party was held on October 22. Because of the inadequate facilities in our own hall the party was held in the amusement hall of the Methodist church.

Mrs. Fae Lofthouse, Junior girl teacher in Mutual, entertained her class at her home recently. By the looks of the girls' hands afterward, they must have had a candy-pull.

We are pleased to hear of the improved condition of Miss Marjorie Fox, formerly of this ward and granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Tuttle, at Fresno. Miss Fox became affected with infantile paralysis some months ago and it has been only recently that she has been able to get along without a respirator. She is still paralyzed in both arms and legs.

The sisters, Seavers, Clayson and Hughes were called to Logan during the month by the sudden death of their father.

Mr. and Mrs. James Hood of Salt Lake have both visited at the home of their daughter, Mrs. Catherine Marsh during the past six weeks.

Mrs. Lillian Holt has returned to her home in Salt Lake after a month with brothers Joe and Hy Horman.

Mrs. Annie Evans visited in Nevada and Utah during the month.

Ernest Crosbie is enjoying a visit from his father from Ogden.

We are happy to welcome two new families:

Rulon Knowles and family of Salt Lake and the Jenkinson's from the Dimond Ward.

BERKELEY

An organization has been perfected in the Berkeley Ward known as the Berkeley Deseret Club, a club bringing students of the University of California from Utah and surrounding states into closer social relationship with each other. It has given several successful parties for its members and has given the ward one very spiritual Sunday evening program. Having been organized in October, it now boasts more than fifty members.

Troop 8 of the Berkeley Ward held a Court of Honor Tuesday evening, December 17. Scouts Marion Johnson, Russell Ball, Larry Pyle, and Preston Erickson became Star Scouts. Scouts Don Wood, Russell Rossen, and Billy Driggs become Second Class Scouts. Billy Hanson and George Hickman became Tenderfoot Scouts. This makes the 9th year of registration for Troop 8.

Dr. Raymond L. Knight, scoutmaster of Troop 8, has been appointed to the Executive Board of the Berkeley-Contra Costa Council of the Scouters' Round Table.

Mr. H. L. Cunningham, second counselor of the Sacramento Stake M. I. A. and his mother, Mrs. Ellen Bendit of the Sacramento Stake Relief Society have been visiting Mr. and Mrs. V. L. Lindblad.

The new Berkeley Primary officers are: Mrs. Minnie Smith, president; Mrs. Vida Allen, first counselor; and Mrs. Aneeta Wood, second counselor.

DIMOND

On November 28, Ruth Elaine Freitas of Concord, California, and Karl Joseph Jensen of Morgan Hill, California, were married in the L. D. S. Chapel at San Jose. Bishop Serge J. Lauper of Dimond officiated at the ceremony. Mr. and Mrs. Donald E. Lewis and their children, Mary Jane, Donald and Lenore, motored from Oakland to be present at the service.

C. E. Summerhays of Salt Lake City has been visiting with his brother, Clyde for the past few days.

Mr. and Mrs. Ed Humphreys were pleased to have as their guests during the past week, two young missionaries from Pacific Grove, where they are laboring; M. Owen, and Max M. Humphreys, nephew of Ed Humphreys.

We are pleased to welcome to Dimond: Mrs. Leroy Dixon of Provo, Utah, who will spend the winter with her daughter, Sarah Summerhays, Mr. and Mrs. Junius Payne of Provo. Mrs. Payne is a sister of Sarah Summerhays.

The marriage of Gladys Mitchell and Anton Olson will take place in the Dimond Chapel at 7:30 p. m. on December 20; Bishop Serge Lauper officiating. After the ceremony the beautiful Cherrington home will be the setting for a reception.

A bridal shower was given for Gladys Mitchell at the Cherrington home, Dec. 2, by Elsie Brown and Edna Mitchell. About 35 members of the Relief Society attended the affair. A special guest of the evening was a young friend of the bride-to-be, Mary Boyce of Salt Lake City who is a bride of two weeks, here on her honeymoon.

Mrs. Ralph Wooley of Hawaii, has been visiting her sister here prior to her departure for Hawaii where she will join her husband, Ralph Wooley, president of the Hawaiian Stake. Mrs. Wooley will be remembered as the very prominent Salt Lake musician, Romania Hyde.

Mrs. Albert E. Fitzpatrick has had as her guest, Mrs. J. W. Jones of Salt Lake City.

Ward Primary Conference was held on November 24; a very fine and interesting program was given. If there are any mothers who overlook the importance of this training for their children, should they take the time to attend one of their meetings, they would be greatly impressed with the splendid group of capable women who devote so much of their time to this work.

Patricia Fish is the new Ward reporter, if you have any news of interest to the Ward, call ANDover 4636.

OAKLAND

Mr. and Mrs. George Bagley have returned from a three months' trip to their ranch in Portland. A part of this time was spent visiting with their daughter, Mrs. Glen Watts, formerly of Oakland.

The Young Ladies Mutual has been reorganized with Mrs. Pitchforth as president, Cecilia Jensen as first Counselor and Mrs. Doxey as second Counselor.

The Relief Society entertained Mrs. Rich at a luncheon on Tuesday, December 17. Sister Rich has been president of that organization until just recently.

The infant son of Brother and Sister Johnson recently underwent an operation at the Alameda Hospital. Latest report is that the child is doing very nicely.

JOHN C. STIRRAT

Attorney and Counsellor at Law

411 Central Bank Bldg., Oakland

Telephone TEmplebar 3111

MARTINEZ

The relief society gave a shower for Mrs. Willard Knowles, bringing many beautiful gifts.

Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Hammond are now residing in Martinez, having moved into this ward from San Francisco.

Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Larson of Clyde have returned from a visit with their parents in Arizona.

Mr. M. D. Tedwell and family are now residing in Concord, California.

RICHMOND

Plans for a big Sunday School Christmas party to be held Tuesday, December 17 are under way.

Mrs. Alfred Winn of Salt Lake City, mother of Mrs. Naomi Layton, is visiting with her daughter and son-in-law, through the holidays.

Baby Lorraine Jay Pearson was blessed Sunday, December 2 by her uncle, Albert Dietliker.

The Relief Society announces that their food sale was extremely successful and are making plans for another to be held before Christmas.

A group of friends gathered at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Nephi Thulin in honor of his mother, Mrs. Christina Thulin's seventy-third birthday. "Grandma" Thulin as she is affectionately called was born at Fort Ephraim, December 1, 1862.

The Ward is happy to welcome Mr. and Mrs. Wm. R. Fuller back home, this time, to stay, on the conclusion of his work in the northern part of the state.

Mr. and Mrs. George Ensminger are the proud parents of a baby boy, Allan George, born Saturday, November 23. We congratulate them and are glad to know that mother and son are getting along fine.

Aaron Bright, young son of Mrs. Mary Bright, was baptized, Saturday, Nov. 30, and confirmed the following Sunday by Bishop A. L. Hopkins.

HYMN TO REALIZATION

Religion is no man-made thing!
It takes a God to wake the spring,
To rouse the seeds and bid them sprout,
And then to call the flowers out.
Only a mighty brain could dream,
Of how to send a mountain stream,
Laden with drops of melted snow,
To help the valley gardens grow.
'Tis only God's reviving breath,
That wakes the trees from sleeping death
And covers them in fair array
Of nature on a holiday.
Who else would make the sky more blue
For northbound birds to travel through?
The breezes know, and trees all nod,
But yet man doubts there is a God!

—Elena V. Greenfield.

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